

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A radial bearing unit for a driveshaft in a motor vehicle, comprising:  
a holder intended for placement in a machine part and having a housing which is formed with a flange; and  
a rolling-contact bearing received in the holder,  
wherein the housing has at least two tabs extending radially in spaced-apart relationship from the flange for form-fitting engagement in the machine part, when the radial bearing unit is installed in the machine part.
2. The radial bearing of claim 1, wherein the housing of the holder is comprised of two housing portions which are so configured as to form together a spherical receptacle, with each of the housing portions having a said flange for mutual support of the housing portions, said rolling-contact bearing having a curved outer surface area for seating in the spherical receptacle.
3. The radial bearing of claim 1, wherein the housing of the holder and the machine part are so configured as to form together a spherical receptacle, said rolling-contact bearing having a curved outer surface area for seating in the spherical receptacle.

4. The radial bearing unit of claim 1, wherein the machine part is provided with axial recesses disposed in spaced-apart relationship and configured to complement the tabs, with each axial recess extending from an end surface of the machine part to an internal groove in the machine part for passage of the tabs and securement of the holder in the machine part.
5. The radial bearing unit of claim 4, wherein the holder is rotatable by a tool, when the tabs are located in the groove, until the tabs strike against an end stop of the groove in the machine part.
6. The radial bearing unit of claim 5, wherein the groove tapers from the axial recess in the direction to the end stop.
7. The radial bearing unit of claim 4, and further comprising securing means for form-fitting securement of the tabs in the groove of the machine part.
8. The radial bearing unit of claim 7, wherein the securing means includes a snap nose projecting rigidly from the machine part in the area of the groove for engagement in a complementary recess of the tabs, when the holder assumes its end position.

9. The radial bearing unit of claim 7, wherein the securing means includes a protuberance projecting from the tabs for form-fitting engagement in a lateral depression of the groove, when the holder assumes its end position.
10. The radial bearing unit of claim 7, wherein the securing means includes an elastically-biased retaining lug which extends in axial or radial direction for locked engagement in the groove of the machine part, when the holder assumes its end position.
11. The radial bearing unit of claim 7, wherein the securing means includes at least one fastening screw provided between the tabs and the machine part in the area of the groove for securing and disposition of the holder in the form of a bayonet coupling.
12. The radial bearing unit of claim 1, wherein the tabs have a thread for securement to the machine part.
13. The radial bearing unit of claim 3, wherein the housing has a thread for securement to the machine part.
14. The radial bearing unit of claim 4, wherein the tabs are each formed in one piece with an arm extending at a right angle and having an external thread for threaded engagement in an internal thread of the machine part.

15. The radial bearing unit of claim 14, wherein the arm has a free end formed with a radially-biased snap nose for form-fitting engagement in a pocket of the machine part, when the arm assumes its end position.
16. The radial bearing unit of claim 1, wherein the holder is positioned relative to the machine part by a pinned or screwed connection.
17. The radial bearing unit of claim 2, wherein the housing portions of the holder are joined together by a clipped connection.
18. A radial bearing unit for a driveshaft in a motor vehicle, in particular a halfshaft for connecting a transmission with a driven front wheel, said radial bearing unit comprising:
  - a holder having a housing comprised of two housing portions which are so configured as to form together a spherical receptacle, with each of the housing portions having a flange for mutual support of the housing portions;
  - and
  - a rolling-contact bearing having a curved outer surface area for seating in the spherical receptacle,wherein each of the housing portions has at least two radial tabs extending radially in spaced-apart relationship from the flanges for form-fitting engagement in a machine part, when the radial bearing unit is installed in the machine part.

19. A radial bearing unit for a driveshaft in a motor vehicle, in particular a halfshaft for connecting a transmission with a driven front wheel, said radial bearing unit comprising:
- a rolling-contact bearing having a curved surface area;
  - a housing portion forming with a machine part a spherical receptacle for accommodating the rolling-contact bearing;
  - a radial flange in outer surrounding relationship to the housing portion and formed with at least two radial tabs for form-fitting securement to the machine part, when the radial bearing unit is installed in the machine part.
20. A method of mounting a radial bearing unit for a driveshaft to a machine part, wherein the radial bearing unit has a holder and a rolling-contact bearing fitted in the spherical receptacle, comprising the steps of:
- aligning tabs of the holder with axial recesses of the machine part;
  - pushing the holder in axial direction until the tabs enter a groove of the machine part; and
  - turning the holder in a rotation direction relative to the machine part to secure the holder in the machine part, whereby the rotation direction of the holder corresponds to a rotation direction of the driveshaft.
21. The method of claim 20, wherein the turning step includes form-fittingly engaging a tool in a housing portion of the holder, and twisting the tool until the tabs of the holder impact an end stop of the groove in the machine part.